

MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION

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June 21, 2005

The Honorable William M. Thomas United States House of Representatives 2208 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

VIA FAX: (202) 225-8798

Dear Representative Thomas:

We strongly support the U.S.-Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA) and are writing to ask you to vote for the implementing legislation when it comes to the floor of the House.

The DR-CAFTA will create new jobs for workers in America's entertainment industries and new U.S. exports. The agreement provides duty-free treatment for all movies, music, consumer products, software, books and magazines that our companies export into the countries. Protecting the copyright industries and the intellectual property upon which they are based goes hand in hand with protecting the U.S. economy and job market, and the DR-CAFTA will provide better intellectual property protections and improve market access. Central America and the Dominican Republic are currently an outlet for pirated works of MPAA member companies; this agreement would go a long way toward setting the stage for effective enforcement of intellectual property laws. Moreover, the DR-CAFTA will set higher standards of intellectual property protections and market access in future trade agreements.

The members of the MPAA have had a long-standing and serious problem with broadcast piracy - the unlicensed and illegal retransmission of broadcast signals - in the Dominican Republic. An August 5, 2004 side letter to the DR-CAFTA agreement already provides a strong commitment to eliminate broadcast piracy by the Government of the Dominican Republic, another reason we urge your support.

The DR-CAFTA demonstrates that a trade agreement can harmonize two important objectives - trade liberalization and the promotion of cultural diversity. It avoids the "cultural exceptions" approach, while demonstrating that a trade agreement can incorporate flexibility to take into account countries' cultural promotion interests. This agreement includes important provisions to ensure market access for U.S. films and television programs over a variety of media including cable, satellite, and the Internet.

In addition to the direct benefits in Central America for the filmed entertainment industry, we believe that successful passage of the DR-CAFTA is essential to continuing the process of negotiating future free trade agreements. As we struggle with cultural carve-outs that seek to exclude our industry in the WTO round, free trade agreements become even more important to our industry as vehicles to expand and promote our products in foreign markets.

Congress has in the past and should again recognize the importance of these agreements to the U.S. economy and job market by approving them. We hope that you will vote in favor of the U.S.-Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement and the job opportunities, market expansion, and strong intellectual property and investment protections it provides to the entertainment industry.

Sincerely,

Dan Taylor President

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc.

Brad Grey

Chairman and CEO

Paramount Pictures

Dan Glickman

President and CEO

Motion Picture Association of America

Michael Lynton

Chairman and CEO

Sony Pictures Entertainment

Bob Wright

Chairman and CEO

NBC Universal, Inc.

Robert A. Iger

President and COO

The Walt Disney Company

Peter Chernin

Chairman and CEO

The Fox Group

Barry Meyer

Chairman and CEO

Warner Brothers Entertainment Inc.